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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P203-0482WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP 03 /15093	International filing date (day/month/year) 26.11.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 02.12.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int.Cl. ⁷ H04N1/04, B41J3/44		
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a total of <u>5</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____ containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>	
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 28.06.2004	Date of completion of this report 24.02.2005	
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP 03 /15093

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
 pages 1 - 22 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
 pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* 23 - 26 / 1 _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
 pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 3, 4, 8 _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP 03 /15093**Box No. V** Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1, 2, 5-7, 9-11</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1, 2, 5-7, 9-11</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1, 2, 5-7, 9-11</u>	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

D1: EP 0837593 A2(Samsung Electronics Co.,Ltd.) 1998.04.22

D2: JP 8-139850 A(Matsushita Graphic Communication Systems, Inc.) 1996.05.31

Claims 1,2,5-7,9-11

The subject matter of claims 1,2,5-7,9-11 is neither disclosed in any of the documents D1,D2 cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Claims 1,2,5-7,9

The subject matter of claims 1,2,5-7,9 is considered to involve an inventive step over the documents D1,D2 cited in the ISR.

None of the prior art documents cited in the ISR describes a moving unit(a step of moving) to move a reading unit and a reference white board to a retreat position in which the influence of ambient light is reduced at least upon execution of prescanning.

Claim 10

The subject matter of claim 10 is considered to involve an inventive step over the documents D1,D2 cited in the ISR.

None of the prior art documents cited in the ISR describes a detection unit to detect occurrence of jam in the common path belonging to a print sheet path and a document path ,wherein if said detection unit has not detected the occurrence of jam, a reading unit executes the prescanning.

Claim 11

The subject matter of claim 11 is considered to involve an inventive step over the documents D1,D2 cited in the ISR.

None of the prior art documents cited in the ISR describes a step of detecting occurrence of jam in the common path belonging to a print sheet path and a document path ,wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is executed.

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CLAIMS

1.(Unchanged) An image printing and reading apparatus comprising:

5 a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;

 a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path and said document path;

10 a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning; and

 a moving unit to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a document reading position when said reading unit executes document reading, on the other hand,
15 to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a retreat position in which the influence of ambient light is reduced at least upon execution of prescanning.

2.(Unchanged) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
20 said retreat position is a position within a casing of said image printing and reading apparatus and away from said document reading position.

3.(Cancelled)

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AMENDED SHEET (ARTICLE 19)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Amended) The apparatus according to any one of claims 1
5 or 2, further comprising a detection unit to detect occurrence
of jam in the common path belonging to said print sheet path
and said document path,

wherein if said detection unit has not detected the
occurrence of jam, said reading unit executes the prescanning.

10

6. (Unchanged) A prescanning method in an image printing
and reading apparatus including: a printing unit to print an
image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;
a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document
15 path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path
and said document path; and a reference white board for shading
correction used by said reading unit upon execution of
prescanning, said method comprising:

a step of moving said reading unit and said reference
20 white board to a document reading position when said reading
unit executes document reading, on the other hand, to move
said reading unit and said reference white board to a retreat
position in which the influence of ambient light is reduced
at least upon execution of prescanning; and

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a step of executing the prescanning when said reading unit and said reference white board are in said retreat position.

5 7.(Unchanged) The method according to claim 5, wherein the retreat position is a position within a casing of said image printing and reading apparatus and away from said document reading position.

10 8.(Cancelled)

9.(Amended) The method according to any one of claims 6 or 7, further comprising a step of detecting occurrence of jam in the common path belonging to said print sheet path and said
15 document path,

wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is executed.

10.(New) An image printing and reading apparatus
20 comprising:

a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;

a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print
25 sheet path and said document path;

a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning;

5 a moving unit to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a document reading position when said reading unit executes document reading, on the other hand, to move said reading unit and said reference white board in a direction deviated from a color material discharging direction at least when said printing unit executes printing; and

10 a detection unit to detect occurrence of jam in the common path belonging to said print sheet path and said document path,

wherein if said detection unit has not detected the occurrence of jam, said reading unit executes the prescanning.

15

11. (New) A prescanning method in an image printing and reading apparatus including: a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path; a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path and said document path; a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning, said method comprising:

a step of moving said reading unit and said reference

white board to a document reading position when said reading unit executes document reading, on the other hand, moving said reading unit and said reference white board in a direction deviated from a color material discharging direction at least
5 when said printing unit executes printing;

a step of performing the prescanning when said reading unit and said reference white board are in said retreat position; and

a step of detecting occurrence of jam in the common path
10 belonging to said print sheet path and said document path,

wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is executed.

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